

MORPETH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

G. B. STENHOUSE,

M.B., Ch.B. (Vict.),

Medical Officer of Health.

T. T. WATSON,

R.S.I. Meat Inspector's Certificate. R.S.I. and S.I.J.B. Certificate,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
MORPETH RURAL DISTRICT
For the Year 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the sanitary conditions and health of your district for the year 1938. In view of the likelihood of the amalgamation of the several districts of this part of Northumberland into one area for Medical Administration under a full-time Medical Officer of Health, I expect that this will be, in all probability, my last Annual Report to you. I beg your indulgence and your permission to record my gratitude, primarily, for the manner in which you appointed me to be your Medical Officer and secondly, for your courtesy and consideration for my efforts on your behalf in maintaining and improving the health of the community which you represent. It has been a very happy time for me and a great pleasure to work for a Council whose aims have always been so unanimous and who have never allowed issues of policy to become marred or distorted by political intrigue! I thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen, in all sincerity, and when your full-time Medical Officer does become a reality I shall always follow your Council proceedings with interest and the kindest feelings of remembrances.

I cannot help but feel that the efforts to find better accommodation for your staff are all efforts in the right direction. The present premises do not tend to help the work of your permanent staff and the only incident that has lightened their increasing burden has been the demolition of the old property facing their windows. And the burden has become heavy to all departments during the latter half of the year and appears to be likely to remain so for some considerable time. In realising their present difficulties, I close this introduction with my thanks for their help and co-operation.

SECTION A.—STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The extent of your district is, in acres ...	79,193
The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population at mid-1938 is ...	15,310
The rateable value is ...	£65,315
One penny rate produces ...	£260
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to the rate books (approx.)	3,636

You will notice that there is an increase in the population of the district of 270. I have no doubt this is due to the establishment of the St. Andrew's Hospital for mental defectives—I have no reason to believe that there has been any increase in population affecting the district as a whole. Nor is there any evidence of noteworthy change in either population distribution and social conditions or industrial development.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following table sets out in abbreviated form the statistics for 1938.

				Total.	Male.	Female.	
LIVE BIRTHS	{	Legitimate		237	132	105	} Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 16·3
		Illegitimate		12	9	3	
STILLBIRTHS	...	...		13	7	6	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 49·6
DEATHS	...	...	...	152	79	73	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 10·8
Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—							
					Deaths.		Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29	Puerperal sepsis	...	None				0·0
No. 30	Other puerperal causes		None				0·0
Total	...	...	...	...	None		0·0
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—							
All infants per 1,000 live births				...	...	...	56·2
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							54·8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							83·3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				...	...	...	17
„	Measles (all ages)			...	...	...	1
„	Whooping Cough (all ages)			...	...	...	0
„	Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)			...	...	...	1

Below, I give the usual tables of birth and death rates covering the last 10 years.

Year.		Birth Rate.		Crude Death Rate.		Adjusted Death Rate.
1929	...	16·8	...	10·2		
1930	...	15·8	...	8·3		
1931	...	15·15	...	10·4	...	11·13
1932	...	15·6	...	11·04	...	11·81
1933	...	17·2	...	9·8	...	10·58
1934	...	14·68	...	10·6	...	11·34
1935	...	17·40	...	10·9	...	11·84
1936	...	17·18	...	11·92	...	12·99
1937	...	16·74	...	12·23	...	13·33
1938	...	16·26	...	9·93	...	10·82

DEATHS FROM SPECIAL DISEASES.

The following comparative table shows the deaths from the most common diseases during the past five years, and indicates the rate 1,000 deaths.

DISEASE.	1934		1935		1936		1937		1938	
	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate
Phthisis Pulmonalis	8	39·6	8	45·5	11	60·8	7	38·1	5	32·9
All Tubercular ...	12	59·5	13	73·9	12	66·3	8	43·5	8	52·6
All Respiratory ...	20	99·0	25	142·0	32	176·8	25	135·8	12	78·9
Cardiac and Circulatory ...	46	227·7	42	238·6	49	270·7	41	242·1	30	197·4
Cancer ...	33	163·4	25	142·0	21	116·0	28	191·6	17	111·8
Infectious Diseases	14	69·3	5	29·4	8	44·2	9	48·9	3	19·7
Diarrhoea (Infantile)	3	14·9	2	11·4	3	16·6	1	5·4	1	6·6

From the above tables it will be noted that the birth rate of the district is still falling. It is lower than the rate of the previous three years and is 0·07 per thousand below the average of the last ten years. It is, however, still 1·2 per 1,000 higher than that of England and Wales.

There is, this year, a very considerable fall in the death rate: only twice since 1929 has it been lower than in 1938. It stands at 0·49 per 1,000 below the average of the last 10 years and is 0·8 below this year's figures for England and Wales.

Approximately 33% of the deaths have occurred in persons over 70 years of age as compared with 37% in 1937.

I am very pleased to be able to show you in the subsidiary tables an all-round improvement. Deaths from Infectious diseases (which include Influenza) are approximately two-thirds below the figures for 1937, Respiratory diseases half as low, Cancer one-third and Cardiac one-quarter. There have been fewer deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and the infantile diarrhoea stands at the same figure as last year. The only increase has been in the number of non-pulmonary tubercular cases.

THE INFANTILE DEATH RATE.

To my mind this is the most pleasing feature of all the foregoing statistics. Last year I noted that it was "still very high," standing as it did at 95·2 per 1,000 live births. This year it has dropped to 56·2, which compares much more favourably with that for England and Wales at 53. Of the 14 deaths, 50% are due to congenital debility and premature births. Of the remainder, four deaths are due to respiratory causes, and one each for measles, meningitis and purpura fulminans.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

These remain as for 1937. In the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospitals, I again desire gratefully to acknowledge the helpfulness and courtesy of the staff of the City Infectious Diseases Hospital at Walkergate, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and also that of the Medical Officer of Health for Ashington in accepting infectious cases from this district.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

(a) WATER.

To recapitulate. You supply the following parishes with water purchased from the Tynemouth Water Company: Hepscott, Pegswood, Ulgham, Widdrington, Ellington, Cresswell and Lynemouth.

Minor alterations have been carried out as follows:

(1) Cresswell Coastguard Station and Cresswell Holiday Camp are new supplies from your mains, and wells which were found to be polluted have been closed.

(2) A three-inch water main was laid to Lynemouth Colliery.

(3) The three-inch water main at Widdrington has been extended along the Straight Mile and four additional fire hydrants have been fitted.

(4) Alterations have been carried out at the storage reservoir at Hebron to meet increasing demands.

Privately, a new supply has been provided at Throphill, Mitford, by the owner.

At WEST THIRSTON, agreement has been reached with the Alnwick Rural District Council whereby you will purchase water from that Council to supply this area.

EAST CHEVINGTON AND BROOMHILL. Since my last report water has been obtained at the borehole and the supply at the source is plentiful. The condition of the mains is now being investigated in an attempt to improve delivery, which is still very bad and inadequate.

LONGHORSLEY. Further samples taken during the year indicate the extremely unsatisfactory condition of this water—I reported at one of your monthly meetings that this water repeatedly showed faecal contamination as indicated by the presence of true B. Coli. As there does not appear to be any reasonable hope of getting satisfactory water from the Fen-rother borehole, I heartily support your intention of obtaining water from the Tynemouth Water Company for this village.

(b) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The scheme to sewer part of the parish of Ulgham and the whole of the parish of Ellington is now being carried into effect. It has been started in such a way as to rectify the disgusting conditions at the Cresswell road-end in Ellington which I reported in 1937, and these houses have now been connected up to the new sewer.

It is hoped to be able to sewer the villages of Hepscott, Longhorsley and Ulgham, and a scheme to embrace the former village has been submitted to the Ministry of Health.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL. Pegswood: Sewage gravitates to the sewage disposal works and the effluent from the three percolating filters and humus tanks enters the Bothal Burn and thence into the River Wansbeck. This system is under supervision and the effluent satisfactory.

Linton: These works will be dispensed with when the scheme reported on above is completed.

East and West Chevington, Hadstone, Widdrington, Lynemouth and part of Ulgham have a satisfactory sea out-fall.

(2) POLLUTION OF RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Pollution of the Hepscott Burn has been reported—a sewerage scheme for Hepscott would remedy this.

To remedy the slight pollution of the River Coquet at West Thirston, which I reported last year, a septic tank has been installed.

3 (a) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Further progress has been made during the past twelve months. The remaining 51 privies at Pegswood have been converted to the water carriage system. In addition, 31 at

Stobswood and 35 in other parts of the district have undergone conversion.

There still remains 700 at Broomhill, 48 at Stobswood, 51 at Ellington Colliery, 40 at Ferneybeds and 84 at Widdrington. Of these, 263 are involved in clearance areas. It is difficult to foresee rapid conversion of many of these until a very much more efficient water supply is obtained, particularly for Broomhill.

3 (b) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Scavenging by contract was inaugurated in the parishes of Hepscott and Longhorsley in April. The scavenging in the parishes of Pegswood, Lynemouth, Ulgham, Widdrington, Chevington West, Longhirst and Ellington has given rise to no serious complaints throughout the year.

3 (c) The Tabular Statement of the Sanitary Inspectors is appended to this report.

3 (d) SHOPS. No action has been found necessary.

3 (e) CAMPING SITES.

(1) The number of sites used for camping during 1938 is 20.

(2) The number of sites licenced is 8.

(3) The estimated maximum number of campers is 250.

The large camping site at Druridge Bay is now closed as the adjacent foreshore is used as a practice bombing range by the Air Ministry.

The above figures do not include the permanent Y.M.C.A. Camp at Cresswell. This camp houses about 360 children and personelle.

3 (f) SMOKE.

There has been no nuisance, nor any action taken.

3 (g) SWIMMING BATHS.

There are none in this area. No action has had to be taken in the case of open-air bathing in the River Wansbeck.

3 (h) ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS.

One house at Longhirst Colliery and two at Lynemouth were found to be infested and were sprayed with "Zaldecide," with apparently good results. A further house was similarly treated before the removal of the tenant to a Council house. The work was carried out by your own staff.

4. SCHOOLS.

The sanitary needs of Hartburn School are now receiving the attention of the School Authorities and I expect that there will be a distinct improvement in the near future. Conditions

at Cambo School are directly dependent upon an increased water supply and until this is available nothing can be done. Tests are being carried out on the springs in the vicinity with this end in view. The water supply and the sanitation at Mitford Schools is inadequate but I am not yet in a position to give you the full details. This is a question which will require attention in the near future.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

OVERCROWDING. The following summary epitomises the position of overcrowding in your area.

Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

(a).— (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	135
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	154
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	850
(b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	1
(c).—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	62
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases...	... ..	320
(d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	... ..	None
(e).—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	... ..	No

IMPROVEMENTS TO PROPERTY.

Numerous improvements have been carried out by owners of property, both voluntarily and after informal notices. Among these are the following :—At Cavendish and Portland Terrace, Pegswood, new sanitary conveniences ; at South Steads Farm Cottages, new sanitary conveniences, coal-houses and wash-house ; at Stobswood, provision of damp-course, bath-rooms and wash-up sinks ; at View Law, Longhorsley, new conveniences and drainage ; at North Broomhill Hotel, new conveniences and drainage ; at Red Row Picture Hall, separate conveniences ; at Widdrington Social Club, new conveniences ; at the Shoulder of Mutton Hotel, Longhorsley, new separate conveniences.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Out of the 268 houses for demolition confirmed by the Minister in 1937, the occupants of 239 still require to be rehoused. In addition, two more houses (Ellington Clearance Area No. 1) have been added to the list. The areas affected are as follows :—

Long Row, Widdrington	23	South Broomhill	... 95
Bus Row, Widdrington	18	West Chevington	... 51
Mitford Village	... 4	Stobswood Colliery	48

The following individual unfit houses have been reported to the Council:—

Hemscott Hill	...	...	...	2 houses
Gubeon Pump House	...	...	...	1 house
Hepscott	...	...	...	3 houses
Wood Huts, Ellington	...	...	...	2 „
Quarry House, Nunriding	...	...	...	1 house
Ivy Cottage, Linton	...	...	...	1 „
Earsdon Mill	...	...	...	2 houses
Dunces Houses	...	...	...	3 „
Houndalee	...	...	...	2 „
Molesden Wood	...	...	...	1 house
Factory House, Mitford	...	...	...	1 „
Wood Huts, Linton Colliery	...	...	...	2 houses

A total of 21 houses.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS') ACT.

This year, the applications are double those for 1937, and have been made in relation to 23 houses. Of these 23, four have already been completed.

Under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, applications have been made for assistance in relation to the building of two new farm cottages. Both these applications were granted.

In general: the number of houses built by private enterprise and occupied during the year is 49.

The number of houses built by your Council in the same period and now occupied is 112, bringing the total number of houses owned by you up to 290. This number does not include the nine houses at Longhirst Colliery leased from the Northumberland Aged Mine-Workers' Association. As indicated by the figures under the fore-going headings there is still a very substantial demand for houses in your area.

MILK.

MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

„ „ (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1922.

„ „ ORDER, 1923.

Cowsheds.	No. of Cows.	Purveyors of Milk.
118	1,580 (approx.)	6

Sixteen samples of milk have been taken and submitted to the County Laboratory at Newburn. Two of the samples were found to contain Tubercle Bacilli, and five samples of Accredited Milk fell below the accepted standard. During the year a number of improvements have been carried out to dairies and cowsheds.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The number of Licenses held in your district under this order is :—

Tuberculin Tested, Certified	...	...	4
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	2
Accredited	...	...	24

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL'S (SLAUGHTERHOUSES)
ORDER, 1924.

There are seven registered and three licensed premises in the district which are regularly visited and are usually kept in a satisfactory condition.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

„ (MIXTURE) ORDER, 1929.

„ (CARBIDE OF CALCIUM), 1929.

Under these enactments, five licences have been granted to store Petroleum Spirit, and two licences for the storage of Calcium Carbide.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives a summary of the infectious diseases that have been notified during 1938 :—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	26	0	0
Diphtheria	11	3	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	1	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia	27	3	8
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0
Erysipelas	7	0	0

The response to artificial immunisation against Diphtheria has been most disappointing again this year. I confidently expect that there will be a bigger response during 1939, as the service is still being maintained and more interest is being shown in certain quarters. The method used in your district is the “one-shot” Toxoid Anti-toxin Alum Precipitate Solution of Parke Davis and Company.

The one case of Enteric occurred in a rural part of the district. No cause was found for this individual case—the water supply was good. As a result of this case the owner of the estate on which it occurred converted ten privies to the water carriage system.

No notifications were received from Cresswell Camp during 1938, nor has any information been received of cases of

Spirochaetal Jaundice or other non-notifiable diseases in the district.

I append a table to show the age incidence in the notifications of infectious diseases other than tuberculosis.

DISEASE.	AGE PERIODS.											
	Under 1 year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & over
Scarlet Fever			1	4	4	8	4	1	4			
Diphtheria			1	2		5	1		2			
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)												1
Pneumonia		3			2	6	1	3	3	3	5	1
Erysipelas									2	1	4	

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table is arranged to show the age incidence and the age mortality of notified cases.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- ...								
1- ...	1						1	
5- ...	1		6	3				
15- ...	3	3	3		1		1	
25- ...		1		1	1	1		
35- ...				2				
45- ...			3			1	1	
55- ...	1							
65 and upwards ...					1			
Totals	6	4	12	6	3	2	3	0

These figures indicate a higher incidence of non-pulmonary cases. This may be due, in part, to more thorough notification of cases as they occur, but at the same time the occurrence of tubercular samples of milk calls for vigilance in this direction, as there appears to be a suggestion that the milk in question goes to the districts from which most of these cases have been notified.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will find on the following pages the tables relating to Total Deaths, Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death Rates and Case Rates for certain infectious diseases, which are supplied by the Minister of Health, and also the records of Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

I am,

Yours obediently,

GEOFFREY B. STENHOUSE.

TOTAL DEATHS, 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH.						M.	F.
ALL CAUSES						79	73
1	Typhoid Fever, etc.						
2	Measles						1
3	Scarlet Fever						
4	Whooping Cough						
5	Diphtheria						1
6	Influenza					1	
7	Encephalitis lethargica						
8	Cerebro-spinal Fever						
9	Respiratory Tuberculosis					3	2
10	Other Tuberculosis					3	
11	Syphilis						
12	General Paralysis of the Insane, etc.						
13	Cancer					9	8
14	Diabetes					4	3
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage					5	13
16	Heart Disease					15	17
17	Aneurysm						
18	Other Circulatory Diseases					5	3
19	Bronchitis					1	
20	Pneumonia					4	4
21	Other Respiratory Diseases					3	
22	Peptic Ulcer					2	1
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)					1	
24	Appendicitis						
25	Cirrhosis of Liver					1	
26	Other Liver Diseases						
27	Other Digestive Diseases					3	2
28	Nephritis					2	3
29	Puerperal Sepsis						
30	Other Puerperal Sepsis						
31	Congenital Causes, etc.					4	3
32	Senility					3	3
33	Suicide					1	1
34	Other Violence					3	1
35	Other Defined Causes					6	7
36	Ill-defined causes						
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)							
	Smallpox						
	Poliomyelitis						
	Polioencephalitis						
Death of Infants under 1 year		Total				7	7
		Legitimate				6	7
		Illegitimate				1	
LIVE BIRTHS		Total				141	108
		Legitimate				132	105
		Illegitimate				9	3
STILL BIRTHS		Total				7	6
		Legitimate				7	6
		Illegitimate					
Resident Population						15,310	
Comparability Factor						1.09	

**Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality,
Maternal Death-rates,**
and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.
England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns.
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	125 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County	MORPETH RURAL DISTRICT
	RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION				
BIRTHS :—					
Live	15·1	15·0	15·4	13·4	16·3
Still	0·60	0·65	0·60	0·48	0·85
DEATHS :—					
All causes	11·6	11·7	11·0	11·4	10·8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	—
Smallpox	0·00	—	0·00	—	—
Measles	0·04	0·05	0·03	0·06	0·07
Scarlet Fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·00
Whooping Co. gh	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·03	0·00
Diphtheria	0·07	0·07	0·06	0·05	0·07
Influenza	0·11	0·10	0·11	0·06	0·07
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	0·00	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2·41	2·60	2·58	2·05	1·70
Diphtheria	1·58	1·85	1·53	1·90	0·72
Enteric Fever	0·03	0·03	0·04	0·05	0·07
Erysipelas	0·40	0·46	0·39	0·46	0·46
Pneumonia... ..	1·10	1·28	0·98	0·98	1·76
	RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	53	57	51	57	56
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5·5	7·8	3·6	13·1	4·0
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0·89	} Not available			0·00
Others	2·19				0·00
Total... ..	3·08				0·00
	RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (i.e. Live and Still)				
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0·86	} Not available			0·00
Others	2·11				0·00
Total... ..	2·97				0·00
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Puerperal Fever	14·42	18·08	12·51	{ 3·53 15·46	{ 0·00 0·00
Puerperal Pyrexia					

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT: Year ending December 31st, 1938.

[illegible]

Sheet II.

District : MORPETH RURAL COUNCIL.

HOUSING (Consolidated) REGULATIONS, 1925-32.

TABULAR STATEMENT as required by Article 31, for YEAR 1938

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :—

		With State assistance	Unaided	Total.
(a)	By Local Authority ...	112	Nil.	112
(b)	By other Bodies or Persons	Nil.	49	49

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	530
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1229
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925...	17
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	50
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	12
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	76

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers ...	49
--	---	----

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS :**(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—**

(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which " notices " were served requiring repairs ...	1
(2)	No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : —	
	(a) By owners ...	1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	1

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	43
(2)	No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners ...	43
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	43

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act 1936 :—

(1)	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	25
(2)	No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	25

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	Nil.
(2)	No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	Nil.

4.—NO. OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE

2

Signed : T. T. WATSON, *Inspector.*

Sheet III.

District : MORPETH RURAL COUNCIL.

Year 1938.

Inspectors : T. T. WATSON, J. COATES.

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

				After Letter or Interview	After Informal Notice	After Statutory Notice	TOTAL.
Sanitary Conveniences.	Privies abolished			3	27	30	60
	Privies repaired				5		5
	Privy ashpits abolished				52	22	74
	Privy ashpits roofed or repaired ...						
	Pail-closets abolished						
	Water-closets provided			15	41	61	117
	Water-closets repaired				48		48
	Sanitary bins provided				66	30	96
	Sanitary bins renewed... ..				54		54
Drainage.	New drains constructed			42		74	116
	Drains repaired or reconstructed ...			4			4
	Additional gullies provided				38		33
	Old gullies replaced			2			2
	Scullery sinks provided			22			22
	Scullery waste-pipes repaired			12			12
	Scullery waste-pipes trapped						
	Yards repaired or reconstructed ...			13			13
Water Supply.	Sources closed or discontinued—Three				No. of houses affected—16		
	New service provided—Three				No. of houses affected—16		

RIVER POLLUTION :—

Cases detected	... ..	Two	Particulars : Hepscott & Clifton Coll.
Remedied	... ..	Nil.	Settling tank installed at Clifton Coll.
S.D. Works provided	... ..	Nil.	do. Nil.

Sheet IV.

District : MORPETH RURAL COUNCIL.

Year 1938.

Inspectors : T. T. WATSON, J. COATES.

FOOD INSPECTION.

UNSOUND FOOD-	Surrendered.	Seized.	Legal Proceedings.
1. Beef (Home-killed Stones	60		
2. Beef (Imported) „			
3. Mutton (Home-killed) „	12		
4. Mutton (Imported) „			
5. Pork „			
6. Game Lbs.			
7. Poultry „			
8. Fish „			
9. Fruit Lbs. or Cases			
10. Canned Goods Tins or Cases			
11. Bacon Lbs.			
12. Cheese „			
13. Butter „			
14. Lard „			
15. Other Foods :—			
35 Stones of Organs & Offals			

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.**Section 6 (1) and (4).**

Number of Cowkeepers (registered) in district :	...	...	...	118
Approximate number of cows kept	...	...	...	1,580

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938, for the Rural District of Morpeth, in the County of Northumberland.

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937 (which superseded the Act of 1901 on 1st July, 1938).

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories with mechanical power	49	4	
Factories without mechanical power	18		
† Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	17		
† Electrical Stations should be reckoned as factories. Total	84	4	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness	3	3		
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable Temperature				
Inadequate Ventilation				
Ineffective Drainage of Floors				
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	4	4		
Other Offences				
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	7	7		

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

NATURE OF WORK.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Wearing Apparel :			
Making, etc.			
Cleaning and washing			
Household linen			
Lace, lace curtains and nets			
Curtains and furniture hangings			
Furniture and upholstery			
Electro-plate			
File making			
Brass and brass articles			
Fur pulling... ..			
Cables and chains... ..			
Anchors and grapnels			
Cart gear			
Locks, latches and keys	Nil,	Nil.	Nil.
Umbrellas, etc.			
Artificial flowers			
Nets, other than wire nets			
Tents... ..			
Sacks			
Racquet and tennis balls			
Paper, etc., boxes, paper bags			
Brush making			
Pea picking... ..			
Feather sorting			
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.			
Stuffed toys			
Basket making			
Chocolates and sweatmeats			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.			
Textile weaving			
Lampshades			
Total ...			

(Signature) GEOFFREY B. STENHOUSE,

Medical Officer of Health.

August 12th, 1939.

